

AMENDMENTS

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In the Specification

On page 3, line 22 please replace "VKEK/QKKXXGKGPGGXPPK" with -- VKEK/QKXXGKGPGGXPPK--

On page 4, line 19 please replace "LDTMVKEQK..GKGPGGAPPKDLMY" with -- LDTMVKEQKGKGPGGAPPKDLMY--

On page 20, Table 1, mouse peptide 97-119, column 3 please replace "LDTMVKEQK..GKGPGGAPPKDLMY" with -- LDTMVKEQKGKGPGGAPPKDLMY--

In the Claims

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A group of isolated homologous cellular growth stimulating proteins designated gastrokines, said proteins produced by gastric epithelial cells and comprising the [amino acid] amino acids in the sequence VKEK/QK[K]XXGKGPGGXPPK (SEQ ID NO: 1).

2. (Amended) An isolated protein [from the group of claim 1, said protein] having a sequence of amino acids from positions 21 to 185 of the sequence as shown in [further characterized as comprising an amino acid sequence as in FIG. 7] FIG. 8 (SEQ ID NO: 18), said protein present in pig gastric epithelia in a processed form lacking the 20 amino acids which constitute a signal peptide sequence, having 165 amino acids and an estimated molecular weight of approximately 18 kD as measured by polyacrylamide gel [electrophoresis] electrophoresis, said protein capable of being secreted.

3. (Amended) [A] An isolated protein [from the group of claim 1, further characterized as] comprising [an amino acid] amino acids in the sequence as in FIG. 3 (SEQ ID NO: 13) [, said sequence deduced from a human cDNA].

4. (Amended) [A] An isolated protein [from the group of claim 1, further characterized as] comprising [an amino acid] amino acids in the sequence as in FIG. 6 (SEQ ID NO: 16) [, said sequence predicted from mouse RNA and DNA].

7. (Amended) A synthetic growth stimulating peptide, having a sequence of amino acids [from] as in positions 78 to 119 [as] of the sequence shown in FIG. 3 (SEQ ID NO: 13).

8. (Amended) [The] A synthetic growth stimulating peptide [of claim 7, said peptide] having a sequence of amino acids from position 97 to position 117 as shown in FIG. 3 (SEQ ID NO: 13)